

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, said communication terminal comprising communication system selection means for deciding the communication system to which to connect, based upon a communication link quality, and a connection policy set for each of said plurality of said communication systems.

2. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein said connection policy includes a priority of a connection; and

said communication system selection means comprises means for making a connection to the communication system of which said communication link quality is equal to or more than a first threshold, and yet of which said priority is highest, with a change in the communication link quality.

3. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 2, said communication terminal wherein said connection policy includes connection advisability information indicating advisability of a connection set for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

said communication system selection means comprises means for making a connection to the communication system of which said priority is highest, out of the communication systems of which said communication link quality is equal to or more than said first threshold, and yet of which said connection advisability information indicates pro, with a change in the communication link quality.

4. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 3, said communication terminal comprises means for making a connection to the communication system of which said connection advisability information indicating con in response to a user's manual operation.

5. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 2, said communication terminal comprises means for setting so that said first threshold and said priority for each of said communication systems have a negative correlation.

6. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal characterized in that said communication system selection means, which has a maximum simultaneous-connection communication system number, is means for disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said priority is lowest in a case where the communication system number in connection exceeded said maximum simultaneous-connection communication system number, with a change in the communication link quality.

7. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal characterized in that:

said connection policy includes a second threshold of the communication link quality set for each of a plurality of the communication systems, with which a connection should be terminated; and

said communication system selection means is means for disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said communication link quality amounted to less than said second threshold, with a change in the communication link quality.

8. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 7, said communication terminal characterized in that:

said connection policy includes disconnection advisability information indicating advisability of a disconnection set for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

said communication system selection means is means for disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said priority is lowest, out of the communication systems of which said communication link quality is less than said second threshold, and yet of which said disconnection advisability information indicates pro, with a change in the communication link quality.

9. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 8, said communication terminal comprising means for disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said disconnection advisability information indicates con in response to a user's manual operation, or in response to deterioration in the above quality to the degree that the communication link is impossible to maintain.

10. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 7, said communication terminal comprising means for setting so that said second threshold and said priority for each of said communication systems have a negative correlation.

11. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal characterized in:

that said connection policy includes notification advisability information indicating whether or not a change in the connection status is notified to a user; and

including means for, in a case where said notification advisability information indicates pro, making a notification to the user in response to a connection/disconnection to/from the communication system by said communication system selection means for each of said plurality of said communication systems.

12. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal characterized in:

that said connection policy includes authentication advisability information indicating whether or not the user is prompted for inputting authentication information at the time of connection for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

including means for, in a case where said authentication advisability information indicates pro, prompting the user for inputting the authentication information at the time of initiating the connection by said communication system selection means to acquire and set a cryptography key for communication from the communication system in a case where the authentication succeeded.

13. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 2, said communication terminal characterized in:

that at least one of said priority, said first threshold, said second threshold, said connection advisability information, said disconnection advisability information, said notification advisability information, and said authentication advisability information is notified from said communication system side; and including means for receiving and setting this.

14. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal characterized in including means for receiving a notification of offer-enable throughput based upon a congestion status of a wireless interface and a wire network from each of said plurality of said communication systems to set said priority so that said priority has a positive correlation as against said throughput.

15. (Original) The communication terminal according to claim 1, said communication terminal comprising means for receiving a notification of accounting information from each of said plurality of said communication systems to set said priority so that said priority has a negative correlation as against said accounting information.

16. (Presently Amended) The communication terminal according to ~~one of claim 1 to claim 15~~, wherein said communication terminal is at least one of a wireless communication system and a wire communication system.

17. (Original) A base station for making communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, and yet adapted to select the communication system to which a connection should be initiated according to a communication link quality and a connection policy, said base station comprising means for informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

18. (Original) The base station according to claim 17, said base station characterized in that said connection policy is at least one of a connection priority, a communication link quality threshold with which a connection should be initiated, connection advisability information indicating advisability of a connection, a threshold of the communication link quality with which a connection should be terminated, disconnection advisability information indicating advisability of a disconnection, notification advisability information indicating whether or not a change in a connection status is notified to a user, and authentication advisability information indicating whether or not the user is prompted for inputting authentication information at the time of connection.

19. (Original) The base station according to claim 17, said base station comprising the means for:

observing a congestion status of a wireless interface and a wire network;

and

informing said communication terminal of offer-enable throughput based upon this observation data.

20. (Original) The base station according to claim 17, said base station characterized in including means for informing about an accounting condition for said communication terminal's connection that is required of this terminal.

21. (Original) A network management server for making communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, and yet adapted to select the communication system to which a connection should be initiated according to a communication link quality and a connection policy, said server characterized in including means for informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

22. (Original) The server according to claim 21, wherein said connection policy is at least one of a connection priority, a communication link quality threshold with which a connection should be initiated, connection advisability information indicating advisability of a connection, a threshold of the communication link quality with which a connection should be terminated, disconnection advisability information indicating advisability of a disconnection, notification advisability information indicating whether or not a change in a connection status is notified to a user, and authentication advisability information indicating whether or not the user is prompted for inputting authentication information at the time of connection.

23. (Original) The server according to claim 21, said server comprising:
reception means for receiving a congestion situation of a wireless interface;
means for observing a congestion status of a wire network; and
means for informing said communication terminal of offer-enable throughput based upon this observation data, and data received by said reception means.

24. (Original) The server according to claim 21, said server comprising means for informing about an accounting condition for said communication terminal's connection that is required of this terminal.

25. (Original) A handover method, between communication systems, of a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, said handover method comprising a communication system selection step of, in said communication terminal, deciding the communication system to which to connect, based upon a communication link quality, and a connection policy set for each of said plurality of said communication systems.

26. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method characterized in that:

said connection policy includes a priority of a connection; and
said communication system selection step is a step of making a connection to the communication system, of which said communication link quality is equal to or more than a first threshold, and yet of which said priority is highest, with a change in the communication link quality.

27. (Original) The handover method according to claim 26, said handover method characterized in that:

said connection policy includes connection advisability information indicating advisability of a connection set for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

said communication system selection step is a step of making a connection to the communication system of which said priority is highest, out of the communication systems, of which said communication link quality is equal to or more than said first threshold, and yet of which said connection advisability information indicates pro, with a change in the communication link quality.

28. (Original) The handover method according to claim 27, said handover method comprising a step of making a connection to the communication system of which said connection advisability information indicating con in response to a user's manual operation.

29. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method comprising a step of setting so that said first threshold and said priority for each of said communication systems have a negative correlation.

30. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method characterized in:

having a maximum simultaneous-connection communication system number provided; and

that said communication system selection step is a step of disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said priority is lowest in a case where the number of the communication systems in connection exceeded said maximum simultaneous-connection communication system number, with a change in the communication link quality.

31. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method characterized in that:

said connection policy includes a second threshold of the communication link quality set for each of said plurality of said communication systems, with which a connection should be terminated; and

said communication system selection step is a step of disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said communication link quality amounted to less than said second threshold, with a change in the communication link quality.

32. (Original) The handover method according to claim 31, said handover method characterized in that:

said connection policy includes disconnection advisability information indicating advisability of a disconnection set for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

said communication system selection step is a step of disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said priority is lowest, out of the communication systems of which said communication link quality is less than said second threshold, and yet of which said disconnection advisability information indicates pro, with a change in the communication link quality.

33. (Original) The handover method according to claim 32, said handover method comprising a step of disconnecting a connection to the communication system of which said disconnection advisability information indicates con in response to a user's manual operation, or in response to deterioration in the above quality to the degree that the communication link is impossible to maintain.

34. (Original) The handover method according to claim 31, said handover method comprising a step of setting so that said second threshold and said priority for each of said communication systems have a negative correlation.

35. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method characterized in:

that said connection policy includes notification advisability information indicating whether or not a change in the connection status is notified to a user for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

including a step of, in a case where said notification advisability information indicates pro, making a notification to the user in response to a connection/disconnection to/from the communication system by said communication system selection step.

36. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method characterized in:

that said connection policy includes authentication advisability information indicating whether or not the user is prompted for inputting authentication information at the time of connection for each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

including a step of, in a case where said authentication advisability information indicates pro, prompting the user for inputting the authentication information at the time of initiating a connection by said communication system selection step to acquire and set a cryptography key for communication from the communication system in a case where the authentication succeeded.

37. (Original) The handover method according to claim 26, said handover method comprising the steps of:

notifying at least one of said priority, said first threshold, said second threshold, said connection advisability information, said disconnection advisability information, said notification advisability information, and said authentication advisability information from said communication system side; and

receiving and setting this on said communication terminal side.

38. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method comprising the steps of:

making a notification of offer-enable throughput based upon a congestion status of a wireless interface and a wire network from each of said plurality of said communication systems; and

setting said priority on said communication terminal side so that said priority has a positive correlation as against said throughput.

39. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, said handover method comprising the steps of:

making a notification of accounting information from each of said plurality of said communication systems;

receiving this accounting information on said communication terminal side; and

setting said priority so that said priority has a negative correlation as against said accounting information.

40. (Original) The handover method according to claim 25, wherein said communication system is at least one of a wireless communication system and a wire communication system.

41. (Original) A network system having a function that a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems makes a handover between communication systems, said network system characterized in that said communication terminal includes means for deciding the communication system to which to connect according to a communication link quality and a connection policy.

42. (Original) The network system according to claim 41, wherein said network system comprising means for informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

43. (Original) The network system according to claim 41, said network system characterized in that said connection policy is at least one of a connection priority, a communication link quality threshold with which a connection should be initiated, connection advisability information indicating advisability of a connection, a threshold of the communication link quality with which a connection should be terminated, disconnection advisability information indicating advisability of a disconnection, notification advisability information indicating whether or not a change in a connection status is notified to a user, and authentication advisability information indicating whether or not the user is prompted for inputting authentication information at the time of connection.

44. (Original) The network system according to claim 41, said network system characterized in including the means for:

observing a congestion status of a wireless interface and a wire network;
and

informing said communication terminal of offer-enable throughput based upon this observation data.

45. (Original) The network system according to claim 41, said network system characterized in including means for informing about an accounting condition for said communication terminal's connection that is required of this terminal.

46. (Original) A computer-readable program for controlling an operation of a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, said program characterized in including a communication system selection step of deciding the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy set for each of said plurality of said communication systems.

47. (Original) A computer-readable program for controlling an operation of a base station that makes communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems and yet adapted to decided the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy, said program characterized in including a step of informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

48. (Original) A computer-readable program for controlling an operation of a network management server that makes communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems and yet adapted to decided the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy, said program characterized in including a step of informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

49. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium stored a program for controlling an operation of a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems, said program characterized in including a communication system selection step of deciding the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy set for each of said plurality of said communication systems.

50. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium stored a program for controlling an operation of a base station that makes communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems and yet adapted to decided the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy, said program characterized in including a step of informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.

51. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium stored a program for controlling an operation of a network management server that makes communication with a communication terminal connectable to a plurality of communication systems and yet adapted to decided the communication system to which to connect based upon a communication link quality and a connection policy, said program characterized in including a step of informing said communication terminal of said connection policy.